

ABSTRACT

**LASER POWER MONITORING TAP**

**[0019]** A prismatic tap assembly positioned over a vertical cavity surface emitting laser (VCSEL) redirects a small portion of a beam back to a light detector positioned adjacent to the VCSEL. The larger portion of the beam passes through the tap assembly and into, for example, an optical fiber. The light received by the light detector may be used to monitor the power output of the VCSEL and may be used for control purposes.